

## CLAIMS

I claim:

1           1. A wrench with a wrench stop affixed thereto, comprising:  
2           an elongated shank having at least one gripping end having  
3           opposing sides, the gripping end being adapted for gripping a  
4           fastener, the shank being turned in order to apply torque for  
5           tightening and loosening the fastener; and

6           a rigid circular plate attached to one of the opposing sides  
7           of the gripping end in order to prevent the gripping end from  
8           slipping past the fastener, the plate having a hole defined  
9           through the center of the plate adapted for extending around a  
10          shank of a bolt or stud.

1           2. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,  
2           wherein the gripping end comprises a U-shaped pair of jaws  
3           defining an open end wrench, said circular plate being attached  
4           to both jaws across the open end of the wrench, the diameter of  
5           the hole defined in the center of said plate being less than the  
6           width of the U-shaped opening defined by said jaws, whereby said  
7           jaws are prevented from sliding off lands defined on said  
8           fastener.

1           3. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,  
2           wherein the gripping end comprises a closed loop having internal  
3           gripping teeth defining a box end wrench, said circular plate  
4           being attached across the loop, the diameter of the hole defined  
5           in the center of said plate being less than the diameter of the

6 loop, the circular plate and the loop being coaxially aligned,  
7 whereby the box end is prevented from sliding off said fastener.

1 4. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,  
2 wherein the gripping end comprises a closed loop having a  
3 ratcheting gear with internal gripping teeth defining a  
4 ratcheting box end wrench, said circular plate being attached  
5 across the loop, the diameter of the hole defined in the center  
6 of said plate being less than the diameter of the loop, the  
7 circular plate and the loop being coaxially aligned, whereby the  
8 ratcheting box end is prevented from sliding off said fastener.

1 5. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,  
2 wherein said circular plate is made from metal.

1 6. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,  
2 wherein said circular plate is made from plastic.

1 7. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,  
2 wherein said circular plate is magnetized.

1 8. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,  
2 wherein said circular plate is forged in one piece with the  
3 gripping end.

1 9. The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,  
2 wherein said circular plate is cast in one piece with the  
3 gripping end.

1        10.    The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,  
2 wherein said circular plate is forged in one piece with the  
3 gripping end.

1        11.    The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,  
2 wherein said circular plate is welded to the gripping end.

1        12.    The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,  
2 wherein said circular plate is attached to the gripping end by  
3 epoxy.

1        13.    The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,  
2 wherein said at least one gripping end comprises a first gripping  
3 end having a U-shaped pair of jaws defining an open end and a  
4 second gripping end having a closed loop with internal gripping  
5 teeth defining a box end, whereby said shank defined a  
6 combination wrench, said rigid circular plate comprising a first  
7 circular plate attached to said first end and a second circular  
8 plate attached to said second end.

1        14.    The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,  
2 wherein said circular plate has a serrated edge.

1        15.    The wrench with a wrench stop according claim 1,  
2 wherein said circular plate has a smooth edge.

1        16.    The wrench with a wrench stop according to claim 1,  
2 wherein said circular plate has a thickness between about one-  
3 sixteenth and one-quarter inches.

1        17.    A wrench stop, comprising a circular plate having a  
2 hole defined therein, the plate being adapted for attachment  
3 across a gripping end of a wrench, the hole being adapted for  
4 extending around a shank of a bolt or stud in order to prevent  
5 the wrench from disengaging from the bolt or stud.

1        18.    The wrench stop according to claim 17, wherein the  
wrench stop is permanently attached to the wrench.

1        19.     The wrench stop according to claim 17, further  
2 comprising an annular magnet permanently affixed to the circular  
3 plate, the magnet defining a hole aligned with the hole in said  
4 circular plate, said circular plate having a serrated periphery  
5 for ease in grasping the wrench stop, whereby the wrench stop is  
6 adapted for attachment to the gripping end of the wrench by  
7 magnetic attraction.

1        20.     The wrench stop according to claim 19, further  
2 comprising a toothed ring attached to said annular magnet, the  
3 toothed ring having a diameter smaller than said annular magnet,  
4 the toothed ring being adapted for engaging internal teeth in a  
5 box end wrench in order to prevent rotation of the wrench stop  
6 with the gripping end of the wrench.